(b) After the increase in prices of imported oils, the prices of various brands of vanaspati had been increased by around Rs. 1.50 per kg.

(c) The price was increased to reduce the wide gap between the prices of indigenous edible oils and imported edible oils meant for supply to vanaspati industry.

Increase in prices of edible oils supplied through Public Distribution System

4169. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of edible oils supplied through Public distribution system has been increased;

(b) whether Government are aware that such an oil is likely to find its way to black market; and

(c) if so, the steps propose to be taken to check this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) All State Governments/UT Administrations, who are responsible for actual distribution of edible oils, have been repeatedly advised to ensure effective checking of leakage and regular supply to card holders. The States/UTs have been asked to furnish a monthly certificate about proper utilisation of imported oils meant for Public Distribution System.

Fixing of retention prices of fertilizers

4170. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how much excess money had recently been paid as subsidy in the name of farmers through wrong retention price fixation for the producers of fertilizers;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a nexus between the bureaucrats and producers to defraud the exchequer;

(c) what are the reasons for taking all the officers in the Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee on deputation; and

(d) how it is ensured that retention price is accurate in the absence of any direct association of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Price at which fertilizers are made available to the farmers is statutorily controlled and is uniform throughout the country. The difference between the consumer price and the retention price is paid as subsidy to the manufacturing units. While the current consumer price is the same as that prevalent in July 1981, the cost of production of fertilizers has gone up resulting in higher subsidy payments to the manufacturing units. It is not correct that any excess money has been paid as subsidy to the manufacturers through wrong fixation of the retention price.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) All the officers in the Fertilizers Industry Coordination Committee (FICC) are not on deputation. Keeping in view the nature of the work, some officers having specialisation in costing, finance and accounts, technical matters and transportation have been taken on deputation.

(d) Accuracy is ensured by fixing the retention price on a normative-cum-actual basis in respect of each manufacturing unit and for each product, in the light of the guidelines approved by the FICC and the Department of Fertilizers. Chairman, Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP) is also a member of the FICC.

Suspension of the Officers Responsible for Non Fulfilment of Export Obligation

4171. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2424

given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th August 1987 and state:

(a) whether the officers involved in the case which has been referred to the C.B.I. for investigations have been placed under suspension as was done in similar cases in the National Consumer Co-operative Federation so that they do not influence the enquiry being held against them; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Since the matter has been referred to the CBI, appropriate action would be taken on receipt of the CBI report. However precaution has been taken to ensure that neither the enquiry is influenced nor any records tampered with.

देश में पूर्ण नशाबन्दी लागू करने के लिए अनुरोध

4172. **श्री रामसिंहभाई पात्तलीयाभाई राठवा :** क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को देश भर से विभिन्न सम्मेलनों, नशाबंदी के क्षेत्र में कार्य करने वाले अग्रगण्य व्यक्तियों तथा विभिन्न संस्थानों की तरफ से 1-1-1987 से 14-8-1987 के बीच देश भर में पूर्ण नशाबंदी लागू किये जाने के अनुरोध के संबंध में कुछ पत्र, ज्ञापन एवं प्रस्ताव आदि प्राप्त हुए हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या मदिरा तथा अन्य नशीले पदार्थों का सेवन स्वास्थ्य पर बहुत बुरा प्रभाव डालते हैं, यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में सरकार तथा अन्य संस्थानों ने कोई सर्वेक्षण किया है और क्या सरकार को इसके बारे में कोई रिपोर्ट मिली है, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) देश में पूर्ण नशाबन्दी लागू करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है अथवा करने का विचार रखती है ?

कल्याण मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री गिरधर गोमांगो) : (क) और (ख) इस अवधि के दौरान एक राज्य सरकार से आंशिक मद्य निषेध की नीति को कार्यान्वित करने से सम्बन्धित अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं। देश में सम्पूर्ण मद्य निषेध लागू करने के लिए कोई अनुरोध प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ग) शराब और अन्य मादक द्रव्यों के प्रयोग से स्वास्थ्य पर होने वाले कुप्रभावों को अनेक वैज्ञानिक पत्रिकाओं में प्रदर्शित किया जाता है। ऐसा कोई विशेष सर्वेक्षण नहीं किया गया है।

(घ) मद्य निषेध एक राज्य विषय है और सम्पूर्ण मद्य निषेध लागू करने के आवश्यक उपाय राज्य सरकार द्वारा लागू किए जाते हैं। फिर भी, 1978 में भारत सरकार ने निर्णय लिया था कि मद्य निषेध लागू करने के फलस्वरूप आबकारी राजस्व में 50% की हानि तक प्रोत्साहन के रूप में राज्यों को मुआवजा दिया जाए। यह वित्तीय वर्ष 1977-78 की राजस्व प्राप्तियों पर आधारित था। इसके अतिरिक्त यह भी सतत् प्रयास रहा है कि संचार माध्यम के जरिए शराब के कुप्रभावों के बारे में लोगों को शिक्षित किया जाए और शिक्षा प्रचार के लिए सहायक अनुदान के जरिए स्वयं सेवी संगठनों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाए। 1986-87 के दौरान इस प्रयोजन के लिए 24 स्वयं सेवी संगठनों को 10.19 लाख रु० का सहायक अनुदान दिया गया था।

Compensation under crop Insurance Scheme

4173. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of compensation paid to the farmers against the claims preferred under the Crop Insurance Scheme during the last three years,